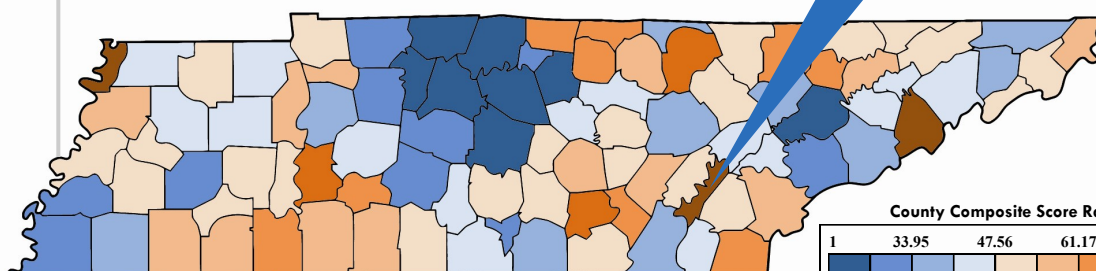


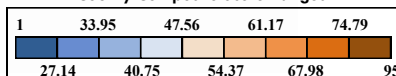
The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

SNAPSHOT: MEIGS COUNTY

2012



County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

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Population (2010): 11,753

Pop. Density: 57/square mile

Seat of Government: Decatur

Largest City: Decatur

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR SCORES & RANKINGS	DATA	RANK
McNairy	77	Employment and Earnings Composite	85.60	95 ▼
Grainger	78	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$25,238	81 ▼
Houston	79	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	64.03%	93 ▼
Johnson	80	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	56.2%	91 ▼
Clay	81	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	14.7%	93 ▼
Polk	82	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	31.3%	70 ▼
Hardin	83	Economic Autonomy Composite	66.25	83 ▲
Lewis	84	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total†	16.3%	86† ▼
Jackson	85	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	9.8%	80 ▼
Sequatchie	86	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	72.0%	84 ▼
Union	87	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.12%	9 ▲
Campbell	88	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	15.5%	41 ▲
Macon	89	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	30.0%	92 ▼
Perry	90	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	60.7%	87 ▼
Fentress	91	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	36	51 ▼
Grundey	92	County Overview: Meigs County is one of the most economically challenging regions in Tennessee for women, with nearly every indicator ranking in the bottom third of counties in the state. That said, mild progress has been made in several measures, though growth elsewhere has overshadowed it. First, median incomes have improved and labor force participation has grown. Women are also more likely to be managers in local businesses than in 2010, and are more likely than roughly half of their peers to have health insurance. Additionally, more women do hold degrees and diplomas, and local girls are reportedly dropping out of high school at a very low rate.		
Cocke	93			
Meigs	94			
Lake	95			

Down
from
93rd

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

** The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

† ACS sampling sizes are insufficient to publish certain figures for this category. An estimate was developed from the performance of surrounding counties for the purposes of creating a composite score.

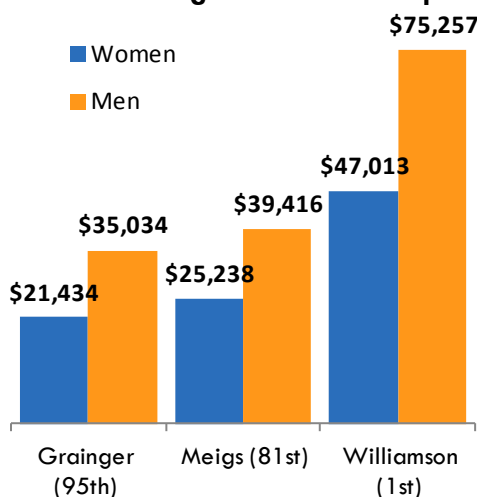
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

The Status of Women in: Meigs County

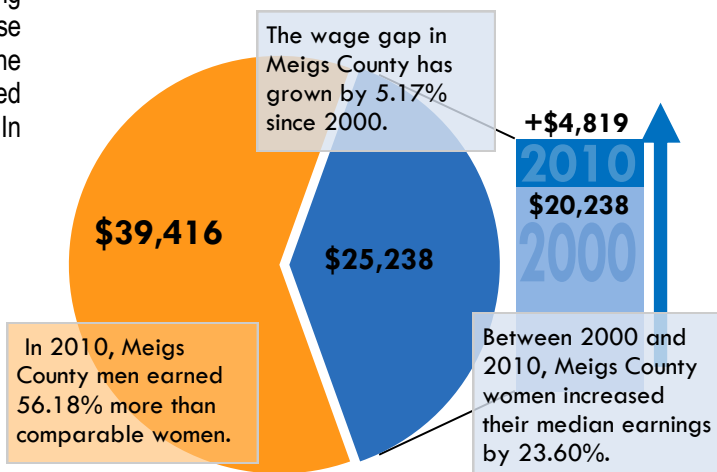
▼ Earnings

Meigs County women made meager gains in median income between 2000 and 2010, adding \$4,819, or 23.6 percent to their wages. This increase was slower than the rate of inflation as well as the growth of male incomes in the county, and caused Meigs to drop in this indicator, from 65th to 81st. In contrast, local men are ranked 31st statewide.

Median Earnings: Counties Compared



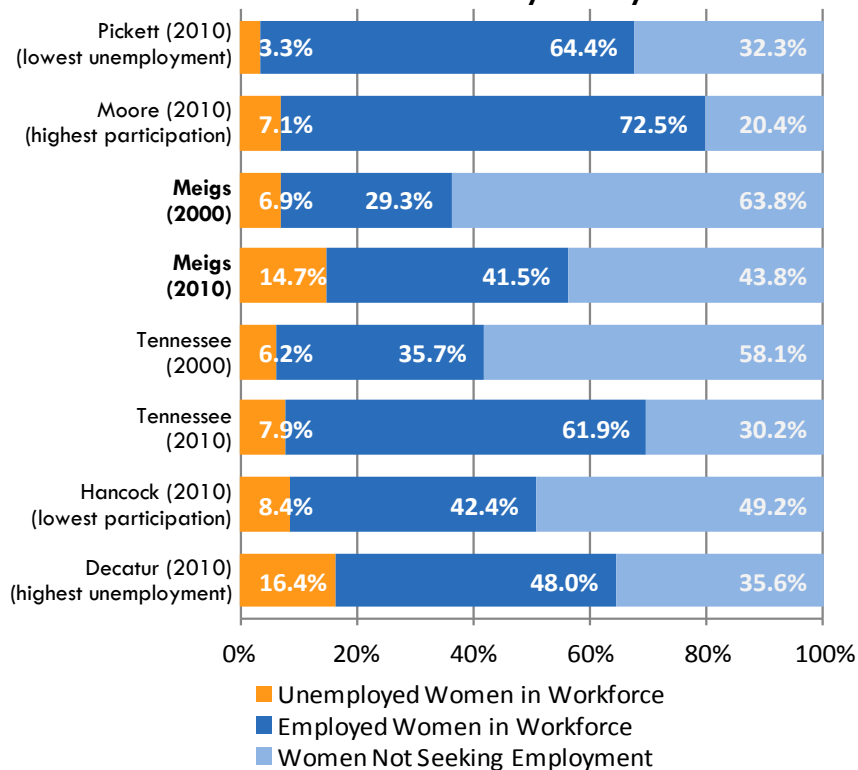
Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



Because female wages grew at roughly two-thirds the rate of male wages in the county, the wage disparity between genders has grown in Meigs. Sinking over five percent between 2000 and 2010, women are now estimated to make only 64.03 percent of the wages local men earn—an annual difference of \$14,178—and Meigs has dropped in this indicator's rankings from 74th to 91st. Women in Meigs also earn significantly less than the statewide median for women of \$31,585.

▼ Employment

Workforce Access for Women By County and Year



Women in Meigs County continue to be among the least likely in Tennessee to participate in their local workforce. At 56.2 percent, Meigs falls more than 13 percent short of statewide estimates, and remains at the bottom of counties in this measure; it fell two spots to 91st in 2010.

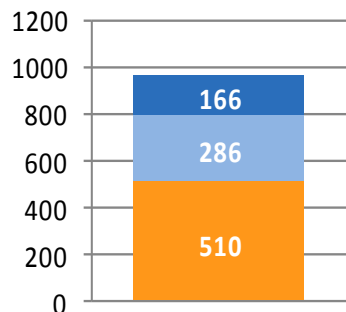
Men are 21 percent more likely to participate in the labor pool, and fewer than half of women with children under six (48.4 percent) are estimated to be employed or searching for work.

Meigs County's female unemployment rate performed even worse in statewide comparisons and more than doubled between 2000 and 2010. Growing to include 14.7 percent of local women, the rate forced Meigs from 66th to 93rd in state rankings.

Echoing state trends, fewer men are unemployed (11.5 percent), and women with young children are jobless at the much higher rate of 24 percent.

The Status of Women in: Meigs County

■ Female Owned ■ Joint-Owned
■ Male Owned



Businesses Owners (2007)†

Meigs County women have made moderate gains in managerial presence since 2000. Countywide, 4.3 percent more managers are now female, but this expansion was slow enough to cause a drop in statewide rankings, from 52nd to 70th. Meigs also fell short of the statewide estimate of 36 percent in this category.

Small samples sizes make it more difficult to predict business ownership trends in Meigs, but women are projected to control a share of local businesses in 2007 that is roughly equal to that seen in 2000; resulting in a drop from 75th to 86th.

Women At Work

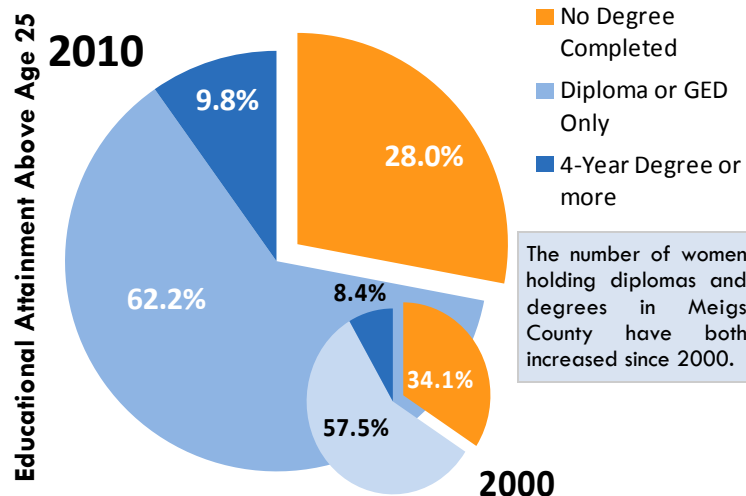
Business Management

The incidence of women managers in Meigs County increased between 2000 and 2010, from 27% to 31.3%.

Business Ownership†

The percentage of women business owners in Meigs is estimated to have held steady at 16.3% between 2000 and 2007.

Education



Degree attainment and high school graduation rates in Meigs were among the worst in the state in 2000, and have continued to struggle since then.

The rate at which women have earned diplomas in Meigs has increased 6.1 percent, to 72 percent, but still falls over 11 percent below the statewide rate. Meigs fell from 69th to 84th in this indicator.

A slightly larger percentage of Meigs women have earned degrees since 2000 as well. Roughly one in ten women now hold a degree, but this was a small enough improvement for Meigs to drop seven places, to 80th, in this category.

In contrast, dropouts in the county improved enough to cause a bump in rankings, from 55th to 9th.

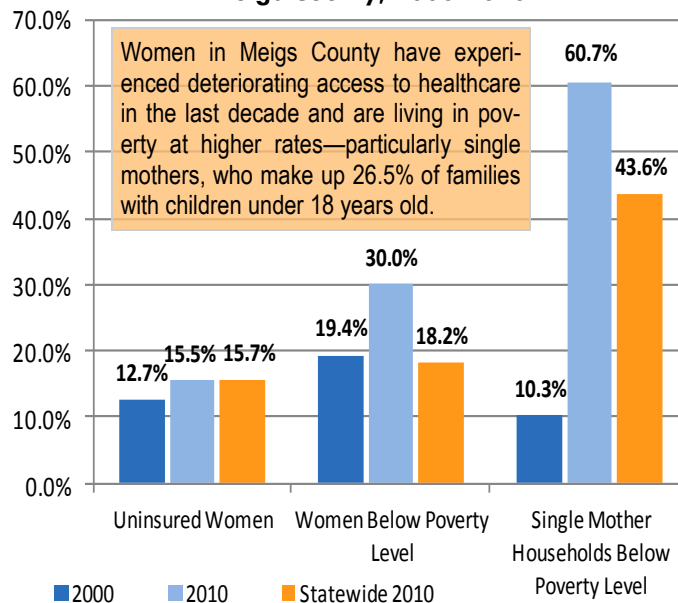
Living

With a local increase of only 2.8 percent in the proportion of women without health insurance, Meigs County has avoided some of the more drastic deterioration in coverage that many counties have seen. The result is a rise in this indicator's rankings, from 82nd to 41st. Meigs also outperforms the statewide figure in this category.

Local women were less fortunate regarding poverty rates, however—particularly single women with children. Already historically above state rates, nearly one-third of the women in Meigs now live in poverty, and nearly two-thirds of all single mothers are counted in this population. Disturbingly, these rates are still not the lowest in the state, dropping to 92nd and 87th for overall women and single mothers, respectively.

The estimated pregnancy rate among local teenagers included 51 out of every 1000 girls in 2010, worsening to 51st from 47th and outpacing the state estimate of 37 in 1000.

Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Meigs County, 2000-2010



About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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